

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/940,829

Examiner

Cheukfan Lee

Applicant(s)

CHIU, CHUI-KUEI

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an amendment filed August 22, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-25, now renumbered 1,2,5,6-14,3,4, and 15-25, respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


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1. Claims 1-25 are allowed. Claims 1, 3, 8, 15, and 20 are independent.

The amendment filed August 22, 2007 has overcome the objection to claims 1, 2, 13, 14, 18, and 19.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claim 1 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art does not teach a method of changing a driving sequence to output a charge coupled device signal, comprising sending charge signals, formed by a charge coupled device of an apparatus, to a pixel processor of the apparatus, according to a second driving sequence with a period less than a first driving sequence, and sampling the charge signals by the pixel processor according to a sampling sequence, in combination with other limitations of claim 1.

Claims 2, 13 and 14 depend on claim 1.

Claim 3 is allowable for a reason similar to that given above for claim 1. Claim 3 requires "decreasing a period of the driving sequence", sending the charge signals to the pixel processor according to the driving sequence" and "sampling the charge signals by the pixel processor according to an unchanged sampling sequence". These limitations in combination with other limitations of claim 3 are not taught by the prior art of record.

Claims 4-7 depend on claim 3.

Apparatus claim 8 is allowable for the same reason as given for corresponding method claim 3.

Claims 9-12 depend on claim 8.

Claim 15 requires that "said pixel processor" be "further operable to generate a second signal based on a second driving sequence" and "said pixel processor" be "further operable to continue to generate said second signal based on said second sequence if said first sequence is changed". These features in combination with other limitations of claim 15 are not taught by the prior art of record.

Claims 16-19 depend on claim 15.

Claim 20 requires the steps of "changing a period of a first sequence of an image capture device", "sending a signal produced by said image capture device according to the changed first sequence to a pixel processor", and sampling the sent signal with said pixel processor according to an unchanged second sequence". These features in combination with other limitations of claim 20 are not taught by the prior art of record.

Claims 21-25 depend on claim 20.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheukfan Lee whose telephone number is (571) 272-7407. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Cheukfan Lee
August 30, 2007